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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY East Germany

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SUBJECT Detail of Interpreters to Pirna

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1. About ten days ago the Ministry of the Interior, through the Central Committee of the Socialist Unity Party (SED), called for a group of highly qualified, 100 percent SED members as interpreters. The Central Committee, after exhaustive search, selected a number of interpreters from the services, such as the Information Office and the East German News Agency (ADN) and ordered them to Dresden. From there, after further inquiries, they were sent on to Pirna, where they again had to undergo further examination.
2. At the former mental hospital at Pirna, called the "Sonnenstein," there is a [REDACTED] which for a long time has been engaged in instructing Russians in the German language. The work in this connection is concerned mainly with military service manuals, specifications of weapons, training plans and production orders for equipment.
3. [REDACTED] the mission has to do with atomic weapons, chemical warfare material, and biological and bacteriological war matters. The premises are very strongly guarded. The pass authorizing entry is very much like that of the ADN, so much so that two women translators who were sent there from the ADN passed the barriers with their ADN passes for a week before the guard noticed it.
4. The detail at first was to be only for six weeks, and later for ten weeks, but in all probability it will last until Whitsuntide of 1953.

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